Facilities at IGI Airport, New Delhi

474. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that a new report has ranked the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) in New Delhi among the world's worst five airports;

whether it is a also a fact that visitors have reported aggressive panhandlers and filthy bathrooms where attendants charge for toilet paper; and

if so, the steps Government proposes to take to improve the rank of Indira Gandhi International Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRYOF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Government is not aware of any such report.

No, Sir.

Upgradation programmes of the IGI airport is under progress.

Sepcial air package for Buddhist places

475. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of CVIL AVIATION be pleased
to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to connect Buddhist places of pilgrimage in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh like Bodh Gaya, Nalanda, Patna, Sarnath, Kushinagar and Gorakhpur (for Lumbini) • by air;

whether there is any special package being considered for both Indian and foreign pilgrims; and

if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRYOF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Scheduled air services are available to/from Gaya, Patna and Gorakhpur. Access to Nalanda and Sarnath is available through Patna and Varanasi respectively.

(b) and (c) National Aviation Company of India Limited (brand name Air India) in collaboration with leading hotels and tour operators offers a single window holiday packages product, with wide range of options for both domestic and international destinations

Development of Sanganer Airport, Jaipur

†476. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CIVILAVIATION be pleased to state:

the details of action taken for making Sanganer (Jaipur) Airport as an International Airport;

by when, the work would be completed;

whether it is a fact that no arrangements are being made to install radar at the airport;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

whether this would not increase the possibility of accidents at the time of movements of aeroplanes; and

whether Government is considering any scheme about providing facilities of services and repairs at Sanganer Airport with the cooperation of Alliance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRYOF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Jaipur airport has already been declared as an International airport on 16.02.2006.

Construction of new international terminal building is scheduled for completion by end June, 2008.

At the current level of traffic there is no plan to provide radar at Jaipur airport.

No, Sir.

At present, there is no such proposal under consideration.

Preference of flight by air passengers

477. SHRI SHAHID SEDDIQUI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

how many people flew out of India in the year 2006-2007;

how many used Air India to fly and the percentage share of the travellers from India using Air India;

the list of different domestic airlines flying in India; and

the percentage share of these airlines in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRYOF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL, PATEL): (a) and (b) During the year 2006-07, the international passenger traffic to/from India was 23.4 millions. During the same period, Air India along with its subsidiary airline, Air India Express carried 4.19 million passengers with a percentage share of 17.6%.

Present Indian Airlines, Alliance Air, Jet Airways, Jetlite, Air Deccan, Kingfisher Airlines, Spicejet, Go Air, Paramount Airways and Indigo are operating scheduled domestic ail-services in India. In addition, Blue Dart is operating scheduled cargo services in India.

During the year 2007, the percentage share of scheduled domestic airlines with regard to passengers carried was as follows:

Indian Airlines & Alliance Air 19%, jet Airways-22.6%, Jetlite-7.3%, Air Deccan-17.1%, Kingfisher Airlines 12.2%, Spicejet 8.8%, Go Air 4.2%, Paramount Airways-1.3% and Indigo 7.6%.

Response of private airlines during delay in flights

478. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private airlines do not inform the passengers about delay or cancellation of flights;

(b) if so, what steps Government has taken to warn such airlines about delays/ cancellation of flights;